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Produces Reinforced Concrete

Otechestven Front, Sofia, 29 Sep 1951

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PRODUCES REINFORCED CONCRETE -- Sofia, Otechestven Front, 29 Sept 51

Tens and hundreds of plants, factories and apartment houses are springing up in Bulgaria. The Party has inspired the Bulgarian working people to proceed with large-scale constructions. All these new constructions which rejuvenate the people and make them joyful and contented, are the awe inspiring fruits of a great and sincere friendship -- the friendship of the Bulgarian people with the Soviet people, who are marching impetuously on the bright road to communism.

One of these constructions is the "Vibrobeton" (Vibro-Concrete) Plant. This plant will produce enormous quantities of blocks of reinforced concrete for the construction of buildings, bridges and plants. It will supply Bulgarian railroad construction with a new type of reinforced concrete ties, will assure reinforced concrete poles for the power lines and will turn out a number of other valuable materials for the Bulgarian construction now in full swing.

In describing this plant the present and future tenses can be used, because a part of the plant is already completed and produces reinforced concrete blocks for the new buildings. With these blocks, produced by the "Vibrobeton" Plant, large sunny dwellings are being constructed for the working people on Aleksandur Stamboliyski Boulevard in Sofia and with the reinforced concrete ties produced by the same plant a score of kilometers of new railroad tracks are being constructed. But in spite of the fact that the production of the plant meets important construction needs, it is only a minute part of the enormous quantities of reinforced concrete materials which the "Vibrobeton" plant will produce in the future for the country's construction.

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requirements. In the not too distant future the plant will start operating at full capacity for the welfare of the country and for meeting the construction needs for reinforced concrete materials, ties and others. When completed the "Vibrobeton" Plant will simplify the labor of construction workers and will shorten the time for the realization of a happy socialist future.

"Production and construction -- this was not only impossible but also unthinkable in the past ", says Comrade Georgiev, the energetic Party Secretary for construction.

New heroic times, new men, new tempos of work. The plant itself produced the reinforced concrete blocks used in building its roof cupolas, the beams and the columns for the different shops. But this is not all. The workers of the "Vibrobeton" Plant produced the reinforced concrete frames for the boilers in the "Georgi Kirkov" Plant, the Asbestos Cement Plant and a number of other enterprises, which aided in their more rapid completion. For that reason, it is no accident that the workers at this plant call it their plant-builder.

On a field, which only yesterday was a bare meadow, a beautiful factory now stands. Seen from a distance the glass cupolas of the roof seem like a flock of birds ready to fly away. On the cupolas the high-quality "Stalingrad" brigade is completing the asphalt insulation. Its leader is Kosta Lazarov. During 34 long years he has been doing construction work, but nowhere has he worked with such ardour. His brigade regularly exceeds the quotas by 60 percent and is the champion of the construction project.

"It is an honor for me to work on the construction of such a plant", says Kosta Lazarov, and adds, "Here a man can apply his

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skill, and he knows that he is working for himself -- for the people."

The foreman Lazarov loves his trade and passes his experience on to the others. He knows that many more experienced master builders will be needed for other new construction projects. By his side the 17-year old Boris Tsvyatkov has become a skilled construction worker and is now one of his first assistants. During the summer Lazarov used to train also his two sons, Georgi and Jordan, along with the others. They are now studying and when their studies are completed they too will become master builders and will work as skillfully as their father.

It will be easy and pleasant to work in the plant. There will be plenty of light, large and comfortable premises and the whole production process will be mechanized. Everything, from the moment the raw materials go into production, to the time they come out as finished products, will be done by machines. The cement, gravel and sand will be unloaded on separate loading platforms by special machines. Conveyor belts will carry the sorted sand and gravel to a high, four-story scaffold bridge, from which the plant will be supplied with materials. The cement will come out in powder form and will be poured into the 30-meter silo. On the top of the silo tower an enormous five-pointed star and a sign are attached which reads: "Peace, labor, socialism -- the dream, support and aim of the working people of the whole world".

From the roof, smiling broadly, the leader of the group of fitters, Minko Ivanov Tsenov waves his hand.

"Send cement," says he jokingly, "the mounting is already completed."

Three brigades are building the 18-meter high structure of

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the cement mixing shop. In this shop the right amounts of cement, sand and gravel will be mixed automatically and 4 cement mixers will prepare the concrete, which will be sent by means of special conveyor belts to the shops in order to be turned into reinforced concrete frames. A part of the finished concrete frames will be transported on trolleys and will be directed into special compartments with a bridge crane. There they will solidify for only 24 hours instead of the old 28 days. Four bridge-cranes will convey the finished production to the open shops for further solidifying and shipping. Machines will carry the raw materials, do the work and the loading, everywhere the work will be done by machines. Labor will be highly productive -- it will be the happy labor of free people.

The plant will soon start operating at full capacity. Long freight trains will bring cement, sand and gravel and will carry reinforced concrete frames from the plant for the socialist constructions of the country. The construction of new plants and of large and comfortable dwellings will be speeded up. The cold weather will be no obstacle to construction, because the reinforced concrete frames will be delivered to the construction sites all ready for mounting together. Much time, labor and large amounts of materials will be saved by the elimination of scaffolds which will become unnecessary. Thousands of cubic meters of lumber and a large quantity of iron ordinarily used for scaffolds will be saved for the national economy. By using reinforced concrete frames up to 25 to 30 percent of iron reinforcing wire will be saved, but the buildings will have the same solid structure and endurance.

Trains will run with more security and at higher speeds on the railroad tracks, strengthened by the solid and enduring

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ties of oscillated, reinforced concrete. The five-hundredth and the above-norm freight traffic will get a new and more intensive uplift. Large lumber savings will be achieved by the exchange of wooden ties for reinforced concrete railroad ties. Socialist construction in Bulgaria will develop a more rapid tempo. Along with the rapidly growing plants and apartment buildings the life-giving Bulgarian-Soviet friendship will grow mightier and will be further strengthened.

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